

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 00817 101609Z

46

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-10 DRC-01 /075 W

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R 101350Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2964

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0817

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJ: VENDA HOMELAND ELECTION

REF: JOHANNESBURG 699

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, VENDA INDEPENDENCE PARTY (VIP) LED BY BALDWIN MUDAU, SCORED A VICTORY IN VENDA HOMELAND'S FIRST GENERAL ELECTION HELD AUGUST 15-16. VIP REPORTEDLY TOOK 10 OF 18 SEATS, WITH 5 SEATS GOING TO SUPPORTERS OF INCUMBENT CHIEF MINISTER MPHEPHU AND 3 TO INDEPENDENTS.

2. IN SEPT. 8 CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN LEBOWA INTERIOR MINISTER COLLINS RAMUSSI CONFIRMED THIS OUTCOME, ADDING THAT IT EXPECTED MOST OF INDEPENDENTS WILL ALLY THEMSELVES WITH VIP IN NEW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY. RAMUSSI, WHO CLAIMED TO BE IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH MUDAU, ASSERTED THAT IN ADDITION 21 OR 27 NOMINATED CHIEFS IN ASSEMBLY WILL BACK VIP (60-MEMBER ASSEMBLY WILL CONSIST OF 27 CHIEFS, 18 PERSONS ELECTED BY PEOPLE, AND 15 ELECTED BY REGIONAL AUTHORITIES.) RAMUSSI EXPECTS MUDAU WILL BE LEADING FORCE BEHIND NEW GOVERNMENT, THOUGH UNDER VENDA HOMELAND CONSTITUTION CHIEF MINISTER MUST BE A CHIEF. DECON 12/31/73
LUTKINS

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